

The
Inyo County
NEWS-LETTER

60¢

October, 1984



A Cry For HELP

Alcoholism - few think of it as a terminal illness. Sadly, if it goes unchecked, that's what it is. Experts say alcoholism will drive its victims insane or kill them. These are hard facts for alcoholics and their families, but the truth is...alcoholism is the number one health problem in the United States today. In Inyo County, it is costing people their lives and their money. But a few are doing something about it.

Alcoholism affects practically all of us directly or indirectly. Everytime we drive down "395" we risk confrontation with a drunk driver. Tax payers' dollars foot the bill for jails, court costs, education, and hospitalization of alcoholics. Society pays a high price (some estimate over a billion dollars a year in the nation) for the availability and freedom to drink liquor.

The disease is complex and no one knows the cause. Obviously not everyone who drinks is an alcoholic, but one out of every 8 or 9 people who drink are affected. It can be a staggering problem even in a County the size of Inyo.

Tom Hennessy is the County's top man dealing with alcohol as director of Substance Abuse with the Inyo

County Health Department. Hennessy is an educated man and knowledgeable of the addictive process and disease of alcoholism, but quickly admits that there is much to be learned. "Further research needs to be funded to learn more about the causes and hopefully treatment of alcoholism," he says.

What is known is that there is only one way to get the disease and that is by drinking alcohol. Why someone takes that first drink is as varied as the individual, though Francis "Dutch" Seeger of Lancaster (a recovered

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alcoholic for 25 years and authority on alcoholism) says the underlying motive can be traced to some form of escape. Perhaps escape from stress, fear, rejection - anything that we don't like or feel we can't handle. We'll seek the availability of a drug for support - an escape from responsibility and self-will.

American society condones such avenues of escape - anything to relax, have a good time, take it easy. We have the availability of everything from drugs to TV as our escape, and nothing in and of itself is harmful, but we are creatures of habit and whatever makes us feel good will most likely be repeated. The competitive market place thrives on consumers who develop habits for various goods and services.

Problems occur when the individual loses the ability to control habits and allows obsessive behavior to take over. This can happen to any of the 5 senses - from eating too much, listening to bad music, watching TV, lying in the sun, or snorting "coke". It all depends on whether the individual controls his senses or they control him.

So if there are any answers, what can be done. As "Dutch" Seeger points out there is one answer and that is: "Whatever works". There is no one cure for alcoholism,



Tom Hennessy

but "whatever works". Whatever leads away from compulsive, obsessive behavior to responsibility for one's actions - works. "Dutch" Seeger has proven over time A.A. (Alcoholics Anonymous) works and is the most successful self-help organization in the country. He encourages anyone interested in seeking help for alcoholism to contact a local chapter.

But Seeger has been through it all. He knows that A.A. is sometimes not enough. Sometimes medical de-toxification is necessary for someone in the throes of

alcohol dependency. Mr. Seeger has organized a corporation called - "Good Help" is hard to find - to set up medical de-toxification units in local hospitals, so the alcoholic can have help in the local community. Mr. Seeger has offered his plan to both Northern and Southern Inyo Hospitals for just such a de-toxification unit in Inyo County.

Herman Spencer indicated that as director of Northern Inyo Hospital, he could not set aside 8 beds for de-toxification but was willing to let the hospital's conference room be used for after-care meetings (twice a week for 6 weeks).

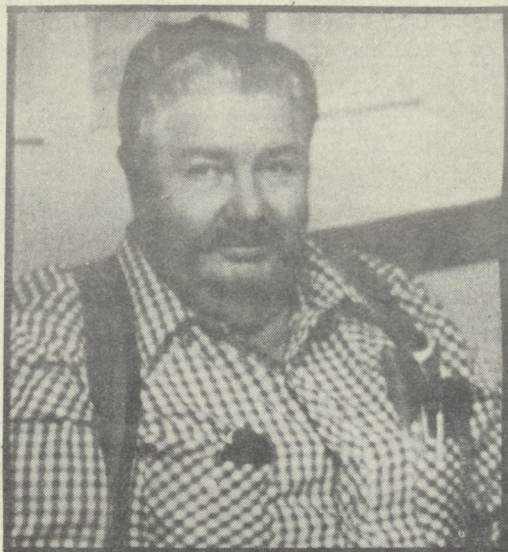
Southern Inyo Hospital with its ongoing financial problems is looking into setting some beds aside for a de-toxification unit - to help maintain patient census and to fulfill a need in the community. New acting administrator, Georgia Houser, has indicated that the hospital Board will consider such a proposal, and it was brought up at a recent Board meeting. Two doctors working at the hospital voiced their concern on the feasibility of such a program - neither one perhaps hearing the "cry for help" of the alcoholic to deliver treatment of this deadly disease.

The medical community has often turned their backs on substance dependent disease, not considering it an illness but a problem the individual can overcome. Perhaps some can help themselves, just as perhaps some can cure themselves of cancer, for alcoholism is no less deadlier than cancer and affects far more people indirectly.

No - people don't want to talk much about alcoholism. Tom Hennessy wants to at least see it talked about in our schools though. Stephen Ledyard is a Community Youth Counselor with Substance Abuse, and his job is to go throughout the 6 school districts of the County and present educational programs to youth in the 3rd, 5th, and 7th grades, telling the facts about alcohol and drug abuse. He also spends time in the high schools - "as much time as we can get". There is a growing pattern across the nation and here in Inyo that 12, 13 year old kids and up are increasingly using more alcohol and drugs, and attention must be given that they understand the consequences of their actions and realize the subtle power of the drugs they are using.

They don't mind talking about alcohol at Sno-Cap Manor Recovery Home for Alcoholics in Independence either. Dr. Marvin Pettet, a recovered alcoholic, is the director of Sno-Cap - a federally funded recovery home by the Indian Health Service. Anyone is welcome, but it's on a first come - first served basis, and all beds are filled at the moment. (Sno-Cap is a co-ed facility with 8 beds.) Dr. Pettet oversees a 90-day program that provides counseling, study, work and a chance to get well. Based mostly on the A.A. model of self-help and group support, Sno-Cap offers a local facility for alcoholics that apparently works.

(continued on p.3)



Dr. Marvin Pettet

(Liz has been at Sno-Cap for 50 days and thinks the program is fabulous - not an uncommon reaction from someone who is able to wake up in the morning and see the world through un-hungover eyes.)

90% of the patients at Sno-Cap are court referrals, though the County has not paid anything for treatment of court appointees nor does it vigorously support the facility. Dr. Pettet suspects local politics are involved and the fact that his facility is not State certified. He says, "the County will send court appointees out of County for treatment, and not pay us anything because we're not State certified. If they gave us some money, I could hire full-time counselors here." Dr. Pettet is currently working on State certification for Sno-Cap and hopes to have it in the near future. (Roger Thompson, of the State Department of Alcohol and Drug Program, says their department has not received any application from Sno-Cap for certification, yet.)

Sno-Cap is not a de-toxification unit where medical supervision is required. "Dutch" Seeger is working on that at Southern Inyo. Substance Abuse, A.A., Al-Anon, Mental Health, Probation, the Courts, Hospitals, Bishop Police and local Sheriff's department - all provide a network of support for those afflicted with the disease of alcoholism...that is, if the alcoholic really wants help. And if someone does reach the point, with a cry for help, a genuine response from an agency or individual can save that person from the terminal illness...of alcoholism. ■

by Jackson Pound

THE

SETBACK

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News Briefs

A PLACE TO LIVE

Finding an affordable place to live...it's a depressing search for many people in Inyo County. In fact, more than a few have opted to leave Inyo for better deals on homes and apartments.

Well...it may not be the complete answer, but a group of Lone Pine people who formed the Lone Pine Economic Development Corporation and a local bureaucracy got together on the problem. The results are now going up near Southern Inyo Hospital. It's housing for the low income and elderly. Mark Webb of Inyo-Mono Advocates for Community Action said that 42 families want to move into the 34 unit complex. Many of them live in Lone Pine; some had moved away but want to come back.



Housing Project Construction

Not everyone who wants a unit will get one. Rents vary from \$233 to \$310 a month. The units have from one to three bedrooms. The way it works...the Economic Development Corporation and IMACA got a one and one-half million dollar loan from the Farm Home Administration at 1% interest. The rents will cover the pay-back. And in some cases, federal subsidies will help pay part of the rent. It's the same kind of program going on at the Sunrise Senior Citizen's project at Bishop.

This is just one attempt at equalizing housing opportunities in Inyo. The big problem, acknowledged by County officials, is the scarcity of land for growth. When the City of Los Angeles and the Bureau of Land Management turn loose of their stranglehold on acres around Inyo towns, then, local planners say, there is a chance for an improved job market and more reasonable housing.

In the meantime, the Lone Pine project will help a little. And Webb also said that he is looking for a resident manager for the housing project. If you're interested, give him a call at 873-8557.

CREATIVE MANAGEMENT

For months, gloom and doom rumors circulated in Lone Pine that Southern Inyo Hospital teetered on the brink of bankruptcy and closure. Then Administrator Otis Clasby told us the rumors were flatly untrue. But somehow the rumors and the lack of faith in the Hospital persisted. For several years, Hospital Boards have failed to get together on a plan of action to make Southern Inyo Hospital a believable enterprise. Finally, after Clasby suddenly left with no notice and the Hospital Board Chairman resigned, a fairly new Hospital Board is facing the facts - Southern Inyo Hospital is not bankrupt, but it's not doing well either. Many small hospitals around the nation have the same problem...government revenues have been cut and a failing economy keep people from taking their physical problems to hospitals. And the economy of Southern Inyo has failed to attract new doctors when some of the old familiar ones retired or died.

While the Hospital is paying its bills and employees, finances are tight. Something has got to change. Georgia Houser, who was the Hospital financial director and is now acting Administrator, said flatly that costs must be cut. She and the Hospital Board are considering the possibility of using some of the Hospital beds for convalescent care or a de-toxification facility for alcoholism (see "Cry for Help" in these pages).

The bottom line at Southern Inyo Hospital...it's time for some creative management and apparently the current administration is ready to make some changes. Many see the necessity for change to revitalize the Hospital and restore community belief that it is a viable facility.



Georgia Houser

LOCAL ELECTIONS

In November, as most know, voters will pick a President, Congressman, and State representatives. But there are choices locally too. There is one seat open on the Lone Pine School Board. John Gentry and Bruce

(continued on p.5)

News Briefs

Continued

Branson will compete for that seat. And as many know, Jerry Zeutzius will challenge Supervisor Bob Bremmer for his seat. In the June election, Zeutzius got the most votes. But with Warren Hageman also running then, Zeutzius did not get a majority. And so the run-off in November.

There will be no election of the Southern Inyo Hospital Board members. We are told that the Board will ask the Board of Supervisors to appoint John K. Smith since no one else filed to run in his zone. Apparently the Hospital Board will appoint someone to fill the vacant seat left by the resignation of Southern Inyo Hospital Board Chairman, Winnie Skinner.

And in Bishop, two seats are open on the Northern Inyo Hospital Board. Lance Hinek and Wilfred Partridge will compete for one of those seats and Thad Taylor, Chuck Fryxell, Ed Forestenzer, and Richard Distel will try for the other seat.

WORKING ON A PLAN

They have a plan...the Juvenile Justice Commission finally took a step toward doing something about the lack of a Juvenile Hall in Inyo County. They put together a plan which includes doing a study to prove once and for all...on paper...whether Inyo does need a local juvenile facility.

Right now, when a teenager commits a crime here, he or she is either back on the street or shipped out of County. Many feel neither alternative is the answer. Vice Chairman of the Juvenile Justice Commission, Mike Lynes, wants help from the public. He has asked for volunteers to help get the plan together. If you are

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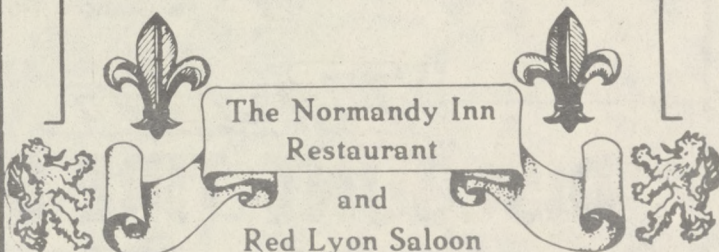


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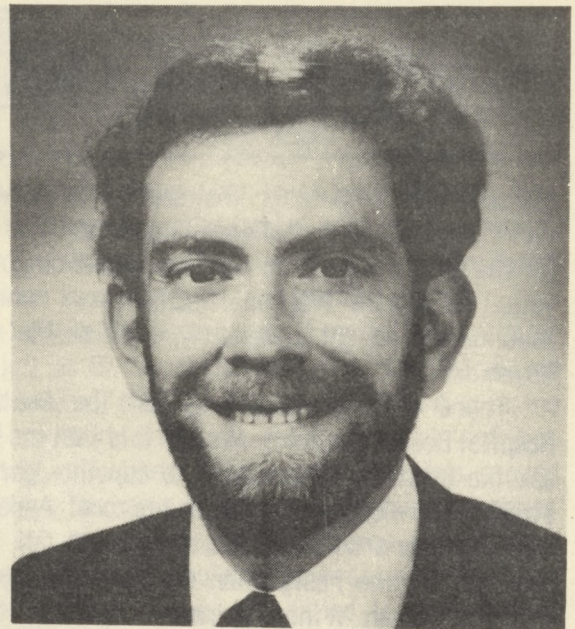
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The Man Who Found The Bill

DWP almost did it...almost made it state law that Inyo and Mono counties could never manage their underground without permission from Los Angeles. How did they manage to fool so many and who discovered it?

Inyo and Mono counties owe a debt to one man who found DWP's amendment to Assembly Bill 3567. He is Jerry Meral, the executive director of an environmental lobby group called the "Planning and Conservation League". Meral once served as deputy director of the Department of Water Resources in the Jerry Brown administration. Meral left government employ, along with hundreds of others when George Deukmejian was elected. But Meral's intense interest in California's environmental future led him into full time work watching what the Legislature does to affect the State's land, water, and air.

Meral told us that he and others knew DWP tried to restrict local control over groundwater here...first in Assemblyman Norm Waters' Bill 178. It was removed from that bill, but this was the first signal to Meral and others that DWP was trying hard to gain more control over Eastern Sierra water through State law. Meral said that AB 178 caused him to check on other water legislation. He said that he talked to someone on the Assembly Water Committee in September...someone who told him about AB 3567 and the obscure amendment tacked on by the DWP. Meral immediately checked on the progress of the Bill and discovered that it was sitting on the Governor's desk, waiting to be signed and made law. Meral, a man very familiar with the Inyo-Mono-DWP water war, was the one who launched the veto



Jerry Meral's watchdogging of the legislature paid off for Inyo. He found AB 3567 and so saved Inyo from further dominance by DWP.

campaign by making those initial phone calls.

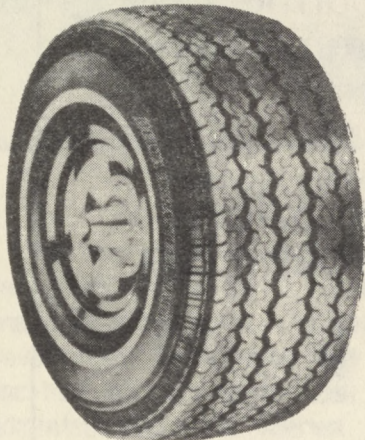
"I called Tony Rossmann," Meral told us. "I tried to call County people too." He said he did speak with Greg James in Inyo and Supervisor Andrea Lawrence in Mono County.

Without that phone call from Meral, it is doubtful that the veto ball would have started rolling...a movement which did work. Sacramento sources told News-Letter that the legislative analysis circulated on AB 3567 mentioned nothing about the damaging amendment by DWP. The rest of the Bill called for increased local control over groundwater, generally. Inyo and Mono Senators and Assemblyman said they were shocked to discover the destructive implications the Bill held for the Eastern Sierra.

Meral called the move by DWP "pretty secretive. They didn't tell anyone about it. This was not on the up and up." If Meral had not been on the ball, it is very likely that no one here would have found out about AB 3567 until after the Governor had signed it into law.

While DWP officials claim they had no intention of hurting Inyo and Mono, others (Inyo and Mono lawyers and officials) have stated that if the Bill had become law,

(continued on p.15)



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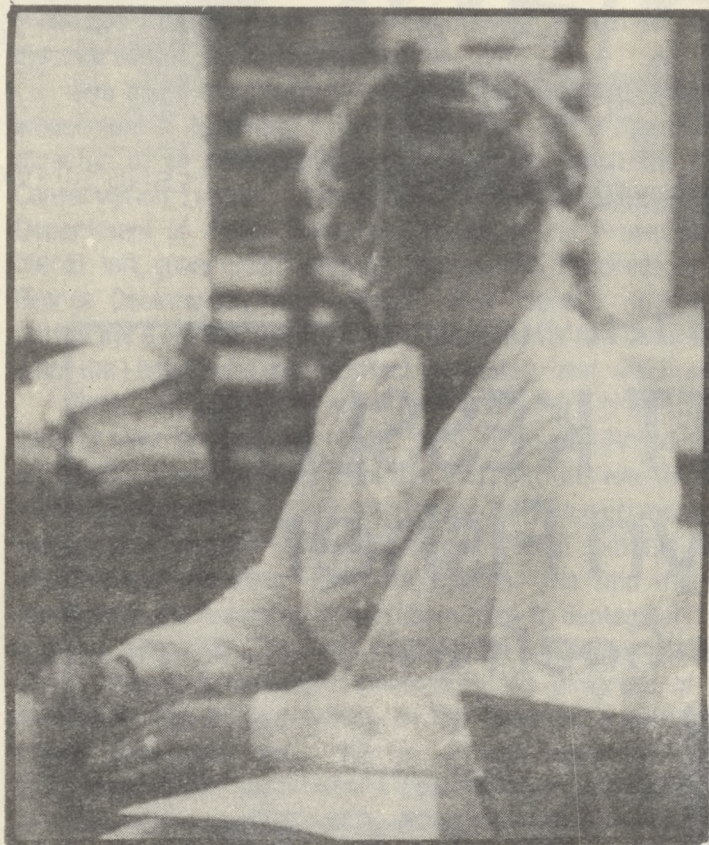
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Welcome to Inyo County Politics!

Lesson #1: Anything can happen in an election year.

VOTE

Tuesday, November 6



New County Clerk: Jeanne Lopez

Highly unusual maneuver. Political. Shocking. I'm flabbergasted. These were some of the comments after the appointment of Keeler resident, Jeanne Lopez, as the interim Inyo County Clerk. Many had no idea she would be selected, thinking instead it would be a fight between Assistant County Clerk, Arlene Grider, and Beverly Harry of the Tax Collector's office. It was a fight, all right, but political maneuvering no one suspected ended the matter.

Four applicants, Grider, Harry, Lopez, and Bobbye Wilkinson of Lone Pine applied for the County Clerk's position, shortly after Rita Bromley-Holland handed in her final resignation. But this is an election year and anything can happen. In Inyo's 5th district, a Supervisor will be elected in November - incumbent Bob Bremmer faces a stiff political test from challenger Jerry Zeutius - and politics have been heating up in recent weeks. On Wednesday night, September 12th, Supervisor Bremmer held a fund raising dinner at Bobo's Restaurant in Lone Pine, with over 100 people contributing \$20 a piece to hear area residents endorse the Supervisor for his re-election. Supervisor Johnny Johnson was there. So was Sheriff Don Dorsey and Jerry Budlong of the Inyo Planning Department. Fred Yarcho of Darwin came. Also among the endorsements was Jeanne Lopez of Keeler. She

had asked in a letter to Bremmer for his support in being named County Clerk and was now apparently returning the favor. Both deny, of course, that this had anything to do with the final selection, but others aren't so sure.

Supervisor Lefty Irwin said "Bremmer was obligated to her (Ms. Lopez) because she had endorsed him."

Beverly Harry, thinks that this sort of political back-scratching had a lot to do with the final outcome. She says she considered going to the fund raiser and donating to Supervisor Bremmer's campaign but felt "uncomfortable with wearing a sign - I'm buying your vote." It may have cost her a new job, for according to Harry, Bremmer had indicated on more than one occasion that he would support her and vote for her.

Bremmer indicates he indeed once supported Ms. Harry, but changed his mind after the interviews - one day prior to selection.

Jeanne Lopez is energetic and enthusiastic, coming across as a hard worker. More than one Supervisor indicated her enthusiasm was what impressed them the most, and the main reason they ended up voting for her. She wasn't the first choice of a majority on the Board, but ended up with the most votes.

Supervisors Irwin and Dee Cook, indicated their first choice was Beverly Harry. Supervisors Johnny Johnson and Larry Calkins wanted Arlene Grider. As Supervisor Irwin tells it, he realized that Johnson and Calkins were set on Grider and Bremmer was set on Lopez. He and Cook were the only flexible ones. Their second choice was Lopez and when it was clear that Harry didn't have enough votes, they voted for Lopez. Why did they switch their votes and not wait for Bremmer to change his?

The answer to that question lies in the word: politics. A dirty word to many, but never-the-less the order of the day in Inyo County government. Cook and Irwin were indeed impressed with the qualifications and enthusiasm of Jeanne Lopez, but their first choice was Beverly Harry. They must have silently begun to change their minds though, the minute Bob Bremmer made it quite clear that of the 3 candidates from his district, he was going to support Lopez. In fact, he couldn't wait to make a motion to nominate Lopez, overriding Irwin's motion for Harry. They voted for Lopez first, with Bremmer the only yes vote. Next, the Supervisors voted for Harry, who was defeated 2 to 3 with Cook and Irwin voting yes. Next came a motion for Arlene Grider. She could only get 2 votes, that of Johnson and Calkins.

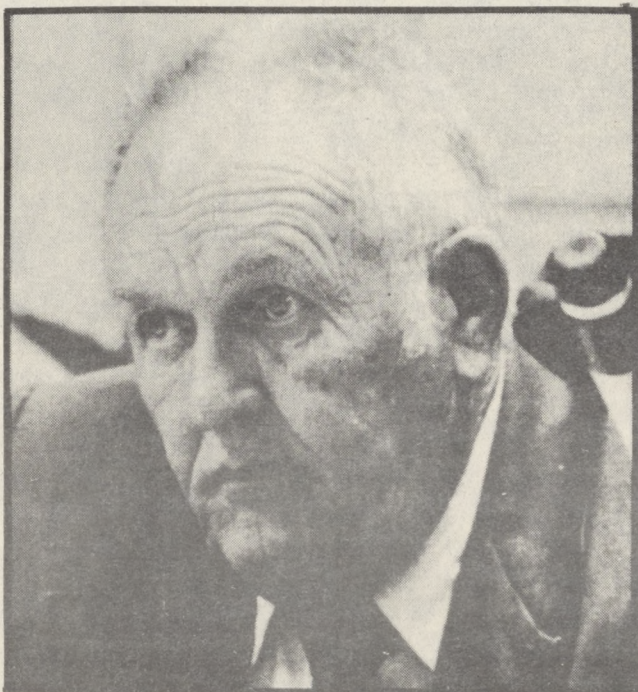
It was clear, someone had to give if a new clerk was to be appointed. As Irwin pointed out, he and Cook were willing to change their votes, supporting Bremmer's nominee of Lopez. It's an undeclared rule among the

Supervisors, that if an issue concerns a particular district, the other Supervisors will defer to that district's Supervisor for an indication on how to vote. Looking to Supervisor Bremmer from the 5th district, Irwin and Cook noticed his unwavering support for Lopez, one of 3 candidates from the 5th. It was a strong indication to defer, and Lopez garnered the necessary 3-vote majority to become the new County Clerk.

In commenting on the final vote, a disappointed Beverly Harry says, "I wouldn't have minded if Bremmer had been honest and up front with me. He could have told me he changed his mind after the interviews, and I could have handled it. But he came up after the vote, and said he couldn't support Jeanne in the election and might come up with \$100 to support me." (The election is the county-wide general election in 2 years to elect a voter approved County Clerk.)

Many feel that a special election should have been called this time if the Supervisors had such a difficult time making a decision. A petition from County employees has circulated around the Courthouse, criticizing the way Supervisors handled the situation. That is pretty much hindsight, of course, for most feel that the Supervisors have the authority and right to select a department head to fill an unexpired term of office - and they did just that. It's just the special-interest politics involved that bother many, and another indication of how the Supervisors play the political game, especially in an election year. ■

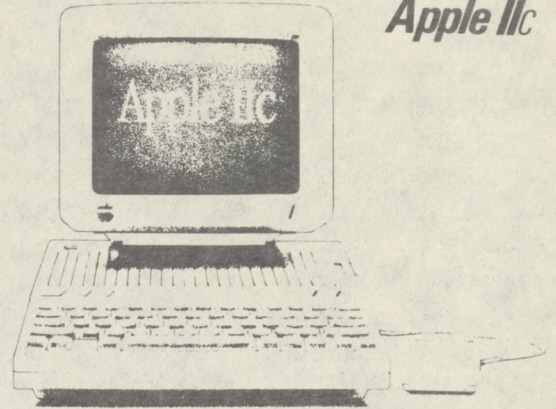
by Jackson Pound



Supervisor Bob Bremmer

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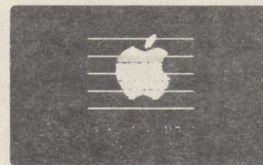
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Would you like to be in debt for 1.5 trillion dollars? That's the cumulative amount of money the government has borrowed, and many are concerned by those high numbers. Deficit spending has become a top issue of the presidential election and an issue of great concern in the upcoming Congressional election in the 20th district which includes Inyo County.

Democratic candidate Mike LeSage has tried to make his point since the June primary, hammering hard the necessity of the federal government to balance the budget. His opponent, Republican incumbent Bill Thomas, authored legislation for an amendment to the Constitution requiring the federal government to balance the budget.

LeSage, however, sees Thomas as a lot of nice words, blaming Thomas and his Republican colleagues for the huge increase in the deficit since President Reagan took office. LeSage draws attention to defense spending, much of which he says is wasted on overcharged spare parts like "\$9600 for 12c Allen wrenches". LeSage calls for a lower defense budget and competitive bidding on defense contracts rather than the current 6% competitively bid. "Why not buy existing weapons that work," says LeSage, instead of spending billions of dollars developing weapon systems that don't work or are extremely costly.

He would also like to see a strong conventional force instead of relying on atomic weapons: "the all or nothing option." In addition, LeSage feels we should "stop the export of existing technology to other countries - especially China."

Candidate LeSage also calls for an across the board 15% tax on all corporations, an idea whose time may have come. Most corporations pay no tax at all through loop-holes and write-offs, while other corporations pay up to 40% or more in taxes. Most believe there is inequity in the present tax system, and LeSage and others believe the



Candidate Mike LeSage

straight 15% levy for all corporations would eliminate much costly bureaucracy but at the same time raise money for the Government.

LeSage says he feels it is "important that government be perceived as being fair" - an impossibility under the bureaucratic mess of today's tax system.

LeSage, of course, is campaigning hard to see his ideas gain acceptance and hopefully win a seat in Congress. He blames incumbent Thomas for pushing through increased defense spending and corporate tax cuts - both of which LeSage sees as creating the increased federal deficit. Ronald Reagan, of course, has come under the same attack.

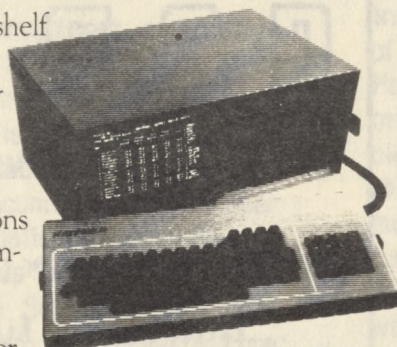
So what's all this got to do with Inyo County? Mike LeSage believes quite a bit. Continued deficit spending and a huge defense build-up could translate into a loss of jobs for the tourist based local economy. LeSage believes the shutdown of UMETCO (formerly Union Carbide) above Bishop was caused mostly because of lowered metal prices, which came about, in part,

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because of increased foreign imports of tungsten. Some say those imports increased because of high interest rates created by deficit spending. So the government debt does hit close to home.

"Inyo is affected and will be affected by government spending practices," says LeSage. He points out that the government cannot continue spending at its current rate without a reduced and more efficient defense budget and an increase in revenue. Looking at figures LeSage has gathered from the government, one sees half of all income generated by individual federal income tax is spent on interest for the 1.5 trillion dollar federal deficit. Comparing figures on defense spending,

it is estimated in 1984 - 81% of individual income tax money will be spent on defense - roughly .8 billion dollars a day or as much in one month as we spent in all of WWII.

Needless to say, our government budget is in serious trouble. An individual earning \$670 a month, yet spending \$870 per month will run into serious problems sooner or later. You can borrow money to keep pace with spending (which is what the federal government does) but interest accumulates and eventually the money borrowed must be repaid. The interest on the 1.5 trillion dollar loan the federal government has floated is estimated to be \$150 billion dollars in 1984.

As economists, Martin Feldstein and wife Kathleen, pointed out in a recent L.A. Times editorial (Sunday, September 30) as long as foreign investors continue to invest their capital in the U.S., deficit spending will be offset, but when that investment stops, the country will be in serious trouble if deficit spending has not been reduced.

Candidate LeSage, Paso Robles City Attorney, comes across as a quiet and intelligent man. He's trying to take a big leap from local to national politics and most feel his chances are slim against an incumbent. (95% of all Congressional incumbents are re-elected.) But many also recognize that LeSage and other Democrats are stating the truth - for the United States it's another day older and deeper in debt. ■

by Jackson Pound

The Inyo County NEWS-LETTER

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In writing**

Dear Editor, et al:

There are times when I felt your news letter was unworthy of my subscribing for another year, however the splendid article on the EMT's of Inyo County was totally unbiased and the facts honestly presented.

Thank you again,
Dale and Marian Dibble

P.S. Our check for another year enclosed.

Dear Editor:

I was dismayed over the way my name was used in your Editor's Note in the September Newsletter. It seemed to infer that I would automatically take an extreme anti-DWP viewpoint. It is true that I have been outspoken in opposing the water agreement, but not because I was anti-DWP. After an analytical assessment of that particular agreement, I considered it a dangerous trap for Inyo County. I still do. There have been other times when I defended the DWP, but again it was based on my own analysis. I still claim to be open minded, in spite of the fact that I resent the stupidity of walking into the traps they set for us. It is most unfortunate that the Eastern California Museum, which has such an outstanding potential, is being used as a pawn in the political game.

Regarding the DWP issue, the fact that I recommended Mary V Phillips to our Museum Advisory

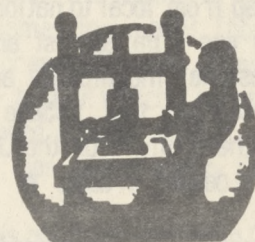
Committee is evidence that I was open minded. I knew, of course, that we differed on issues, but considered the museum apart from that. Little did I expect that she would lose no time in joining forces with Mr. Epley for discrediting our Board. Mary V, for her own reasons, has avoided any contact with the Board members, nor has she ever made any effort to work with us. She has sought out those who are eager to criticize, basically Epley's followers, including County officials. Between them they have decided who should determine the future of our museum.

Mrs. Phillips has told people that our Board is difficult to work with. It would have been more ethical if she had tried. Of course Mr. Epley has found us difficult ever since we first curbed his personal plans of operation in the museum. Epley and Phillips find that they can use each other. When it comes to carrying out the objectives of the DWP, ethics is notably lacking. Gush and flattery work wonders! The County Supervisors have supported them throughout. All this without the slightest interest in the viewpoint or objectives of the responsible body they appointed to manage the museum. Could it happen anywhere but in Inyo? The victim, of course, is the museum. It will never reach its potential as long as it is made fair game for snipers. It is being strangled by petty politics.

Let's wake up and analyze the situation. Let's focus on achieving the best museum possible. We should strive for one that will be a vital core for interpreting the cultural and natural heritage of Eastern California, a center of such high integrity that it will have a place with other well-known research institutions. The potential is there. Do we have the vision to take advantage of it?
Mary DeDecker

The News-Letter welcomes reader letters and comments relevant to public issues. Letters should be brief and consisely stated. The editors remind readers that publication of a letter does not necessarily imply either the editor's agreement with its content, or its accuracy. Address letters to P.O. Box 313, Independence, CA 93526.

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Benbrook

If the news is bad today - cheer up -
Benbrook will make it worse tomorrow!

by Clarence Benbrook

Gromyko seeing Mondale before Reagan. He wants to start at the bottom and work up.

Reagan announces a four-point program for helping farmers. A pitchfork in every barn.

DeLorean and wife separate. The jury found him not guilty. His wife probably didn't.

Anti D.W.P. sentiment snowballing. They hope it won't last any longer.

It costs \$31,948 a year for Tip O'Neill's chauffeur. All that money for hauling all that beef, and we still have to listen to all that beef, beef.

Mondale says God is a Democrat. Nobody ever heard of Jesus riding into town on an elephant.

Mondale says he has a new plan. He's going to be himself and tell the truth. Who has he been and what has he been telling us?????

Court urged to OK "silent moment". Some husbands would love it.

A book is planned to document Reagan's credentials as a Christian. All they have to do is copy the Bible with Reagan's name substituted.

U. of C. regents condemn the latest Jarvis tax-cutting initiative as "Chaotic". The definition for "Chaotic" is a bureaucrat without someone else's money to spend.

Mondale transformed from a poor Senator to a prosperous Lawyer. Money has a way of transforming poor to rich.

Omie Mairs says: The gender gap is turning into a gender-fender-bender.

\$300,000 going for a study of the dust problem in Owens Valley. Don't just do something - stand there. Wonder who gets all this waste money?



Wyman accuses D.W.P. of subterfuge and deception in their dealings. D.W.P. is as straight as the Snake River.

Pope calls industrial nations imperialistic. Imperialistic nations should listen to imperialistic churches.

Americans trying to make sense out of Beirut bombings. In Beirut, senseless is normal.

Sierra Club backs Mondale. They fight for endangered politicians.

Task Force: A million dollar committee, formed by a million dollar committee to find out if they need another million dollar committee.

Users of some parks in Oregon are urged to boil their water because it has fecal pollution. Boiled fecal water tastes better than plain.

Kennedy assures Ferraro that the keys to the city are hers. She'd rather have the keys to his car so he won't have to drive her home.

Half of life sentences end after four years in jail. Life really is short.

Ferraro tells Reagan to come out and fight like a man. How do you fight like a man with a woman?

1900 years ago: The Pharaoh of Egypt was running a government controlled abortion clinic which was trying to get rid of all the children. Economic advisers were warning the King of a coming seven year famine. And Noah quit work on the Ark because D.W.P. was buying up all the water rights. The more things change the more they look alike.

Nag! Nag! Nag! Independence is a one-horse town and Benett Kessler is the nag.

Ben

Benett
Kessler



Notes from B.K.

POKER AND THE DWP/ GET UP AND BOOGY/
CHEF ANTON/ NO MORE 2 FOR 1/ COWBOY
FORMER SHERIFF/ LINDA TIES KNOT

Somebody said to me the other day that they would love to get the Inyo Supervisors into a poker game, because it would be so easy to pull a bluff on them.

That's the way it looks to a lot of people. DWP almost pulled one over on the Board (AB3567) and they will certainly do it again when the opportunity arises. That's what Inyo's citizens tried to tell the Supervisors during the agreement hearings.

But...I suppose our leaders will uphold their sell-out...even in the face of clear-cut fraud by DWP. They just won't face the simple truth: DWP will do anything to get our water.

After the AB 3567 fiasco, David Gaines, who is chairman of the Mono Lake Committee, said it this way: "DWP has unmasked itself as the unscrupulous and devious adversary that we hoped they weren't, but suspected they were all along."

As for the L.A. City Council controlling DWP... why should they? DWP gives the City a gift of more than 60 million dollars a year.

Advice to the Board: As the song goes "... know when to hold 'em, know when to fold 'em, know when to walk away, know when to fight."

And now on to a different kind of gyration... seems hundreds are puffing and panting these days in aerobics classes. But we hear some religions frown on all of that rock music that sets the beat for the twisting around. Sooo....some ladies have started up "Christian aerobics". I guess if it's religious music, it's okay to get up and boogy!

And compliments to the chef! Anton Nunnikhoven, head chef at Mammoth Mountain Inn's Altitude 9000 restaurant is a young man in his early 20's... but one who has already mastered the fine art of cuisine. Had the pleasure of trying one of his gourmet creations as the guest of the Mountain during one of their winemaker series dinners. Definitely worth the trip.

Just got back from a trip to my hometown in Ohio

where they're cracking down on drunk driving... seems bargain-hunting drinkers are sad about the end of happy hour there. Two drinks for the price of one has been outlawed.

Saw former Sheriff Floyd Barton the other day. Retirement seems to agree with him. He looks great and says he's enjoying life. The Sheriff is into horses. Even does some cowboy work now and then.

And congratulations to the Zeutzius family of Lone Pine. Linda Zeutzius tied the marital knot with Long Beach engineer Ron Carlson. Linda's the one with the beautiful voice. Her proud Dad, Supervisorial candidate Jerry Zeutzius, says Linda still sings in church and has been doing some work in prison ministry... with songs and discussions at a juvenile home.

And in the VPP department: Guy Godfrey has got to be the most pleasant person I've met in the news business. He's the one who does sports on the KESR radio news and on ICTV Channel 12 news in Bishop and Big Pine.

Few know he was an award winning coach in Southern California... came up here to retire and now he's working harder than ever... traded a track coach's chores for the bright lights of Inyo media.

And a special thank you to all of you who have taken the time to tell me and Marilyn Fisher that you're glad we're back on the air at KESR. We appreciate your support and we're glad to be back too!

...MAY THE NEWS IN YOUR DAY BE GOOD
NEWS EVERY DAY...

Sincerely,

BK

THE MAN (continued from p.6)

Inyo's opportunity to fight for a groundwater ordinance would have died and with it any future opportunity to locally manage groundwater.

Meral, who watches firsthand what the legislators do on environmental law, said that a kind of stalemate exists on laws governing the environment. He said it appears that the Deukmejian administration or at least the legislature is "not ready to turn over environmental laws." But he also said that Deukmejian is not a "progressive force on environment." DWP was apparently betting on that and hoping to slip through a law to further cripple the Eastern Sierra's control over its own resources.

The "Planning and Conservation League" is backed by several environmental organizations...it's an office with only Meral, a part-time secretary and some consultants. For Inyo County, it was a stroke of good luck that one man, Jerry Meral, with a lot to do, asked the right questions at the right time.

Meral and others say that Inyo County is in as good a position as it has ever been...but many temper that optimism with the warning that the position is only valuable if Inyo's leaders know how to use it. ■

by ESNS



The Inyo County NEWS-LETTER

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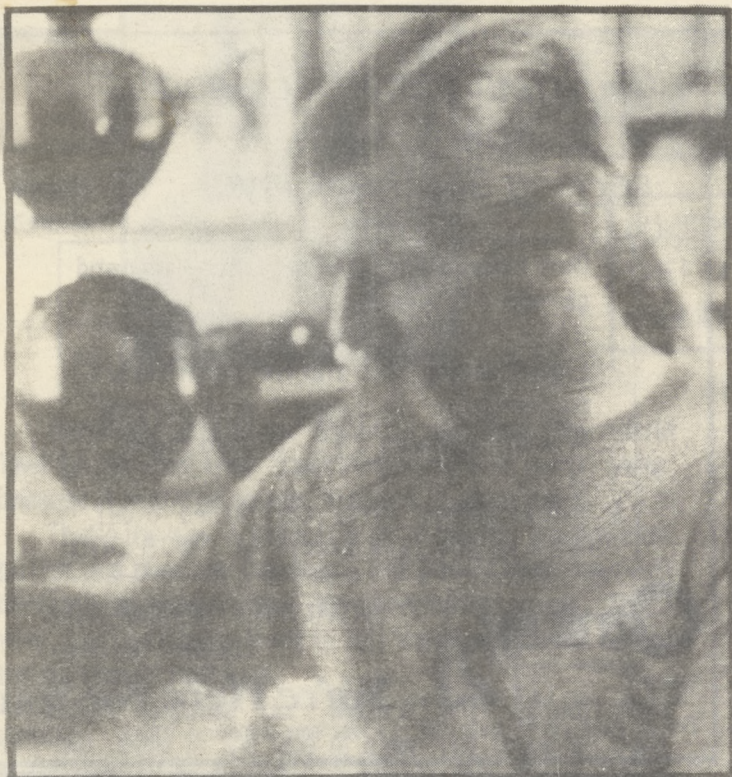
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Magical Pots

There is no question that pottery is an art form, and when you step into the shop of potter, Drew Wickman, you feel the presence of a masterful artist.

Drew has had a shop in Independence for 7 years - 2 years at his present location, and says his work has changed drastically over the years. "When I first came here, I was into what you might call abstract expressionist work, but have moved into more classical forms such as globes and vessels."

Yet each product of his creative labor Wickman prefers "to allow things to occur." "I went to school in the 60's, and have been influenced by Japanese folk pottery and the Zen influence in pottery." This translates into a more natural evolution of design, letting things happen that "I choose not to control." "I try not to force everything," explains Wickman, "but prefer to allow things to occur, beyond a certain point." That point for Wickman is when he puts the clay object in a kiln to cook. "That's the last connection and from then on I let things happen." And happen they do - the outcome being quite spectacular in many instances.

Wickman perhaps summed up his philosophy as an artist by saying, "One pot suggests the next. If I have an idea, I try not to think about it too much. It's better to look at the whole picture than bits and pieces." ■



Photos and text by: Jackson Pound



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